



2016 VICTORIAN SENIOR ORDER OF MERIT - CONDITIONS

1. EVENTS

- 1.1 The 2016 Victorian Senior Order of Merit competition consists of designated Senior Golf events approved by the Golf Victoria (GV) Match Committee conducted from the Sorrento Senior Amateur in early December 2015 until the Moyne Senior Amateur at Port Fairy in late November 2016. Victorian Senior Order of Merit events for 2016 are as listed in the official 2016 Victorian Senior Golf Program.
- 1.2 All events are to be of at least 18-holes duration and shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as adopted by R&A Rules Limited, together with such local rules as are in force on the course over which the competition rounds are being played.
- 1.3 Each event is required to offer prizes for both stroke score and net (handicap reduced) score performances.
- 1.4 All clubs staging designated Victorian Senior Order of Merit events are required to:
 - submit draft entry forms and conditions to the GV Match Committee prior to publication/circulation for approval.
 - return an alphabetical listing of all players that competed in the designated event together with handicap, stroke score and net score details for each respective player.
 - In accordance with the GA Handicap System, all clubs hosting designated events are required to directly enter all competition scores on GOLF Link immediately upon the conclusion of the event.

Note: Upon request, Golf Victoria will assist in the conduct of Victorian Senior Order of Merit Events including the above requirements.

- 1.5 Any club desiring to stage a Senior Golf Event as part of the Victorian Senior Order of Merit must initially formally approach the GV Match Committee for approval.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 The Victorian Senior Order of Merit competition is open to male amateurs who are members of clubs affiliated with Golf Victoria, or of golf clubs registered with such State or Overseas Associations as are affiliated with or recognised by GV, or of clubs affiliated with the Victorian Golf League and Registered Golfers.
- 2.2 To accrue points in a Victorian Senior Order of Merit event, a player must have reached their 55th birthday by the first scheduled day of that event, and must hold a GA Handicap or affiliated overseas handicap of 24.4 or less. Eligible players will additionally conform in all respects to the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by R&A Rules Limited.
- 2.3 Unless otherwise specified in specific event conditions, a player is required to play from their current GA Handicap for each 2016 Victorian Senior Order of Merit event with the exception that no player shall play from a Daily Handicap greater than 24 strokes.

Exception: Players subject to the provisions of Condition 2.4.

- 2.4 In accordance with Section 17 of the GA Handicap System, the leading 30 players from the 2015 Paul Lulofs Trophy and any player within the leading 30 players of the 2016 Paul Lulofs Trophy as at March 31; June 30 and/or September 30 will be allocated a Special Competition GA Handicap.

Each player's Special Competition GA Handicap will be calculated on the basis of scores returned in Victorian Senior Order of Merit events only, in accordance with the regular calculation provisions of the GA Handicap System and updated following each Victorian Senior Order of Merit event.

For each 2016 Victorian Senior Order of Merit event, players subject to this condition are required to play from the lower of either their Special Competition GA Handicap or their current GA Handicap with the exception that no player shall play from a Daily Handicap greater than 24 strokes.

3. POINTS ALLOCATION

- 3.1 The Victorian Senior Order of Merit will recognise performances for both stroke and net (handicap reduced) scoring.
- 3.2 A player's final Victorian Senior Order of Merit points total for both stroke and net will comprise all points accrued from his best **twelve (12)** performances in designated events during that calendar year. Once a player plays more than **twelve (12)** designated events, his worst performance (e.g. lowest points total from a designated event) drops off for each additional event he plays.
- 3.3 The player who accrues the highest total of points for stroke performances in designated events over the calendar year will win the **Doug Bachli Trophy** and shall also receive an individual trophy. The runner-up and third place-getter shall also receive a trophy.
- 3.4 The player who accrues the highest total of points for net performances in designated events over the calendar year will win the **Paul Lulofs Trophy** (former Victorian Senior Order of Merit Handicap Trophy) and shall also receive an individual trophy. The runner-up and third place-getter shall also receive a trophy.
- 3.5 Eligible players completing a Victorian Senior Order of Merit event will be awarded points for that tournament as follows:

Vic Senior Amateur	Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Points	400	350	306	276	248	223	201	181	163	147	132	119	107	96	86	77	69	62	56	51
	Place	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
	Points	46	42	38	34	31	28	25	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11

54 Holes	Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Points	300	263	230	207	186	167	151	136	122	110	99	89	80	72	65	58	52	47	42	38
	Place	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30										
	Points	34	31	28	25	22	20	18	16	14	13										

36 Holes	Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Points	250	219	191	172	155	139	125	113	102	92	83	75	67	60	54	48	43	39	35	32
	Place	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30										
	Points	29	26	23	21	19	17	15	13	12	11										

18 Holes	Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Points	200	175	153	138	124	112	101	91	82	74	66	60	54	48	43	39	35	31	28	25
	Place	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30										
	Points	23	21	19	17	16	15	14	13	12	11										

Notes:

- (i) Where the gross (stroke) competition at a Victorian Senior Order of Merit event is decided by a play-off, the winner will be allocated the maximum available points relevant to that event. Point allocations to other player(s) in any such play-off will also be made on the basis of the play-off outcome if this is clearly achieved. If this is not the case, remaining play-off player(s) tying on the same score will have relevant points determined as per the above tables.

- (ii) Should any Doug Bachli event be reduced in duration (eg. 36-hole event reduced to 18-holes) due to extreme weather, course conditions or any other factor as determined by the event Championship Committee, points for the Doug Bachli and Senior Order of Merit Handicap Trophy will be awarded on the basis of the event's original duration.
- (iii) Should any Doug Bachli event be abandoned without any round being completed, all players in the draw as of the first day of the Championship will each be allocated 10 points.
- (iv) During a designated Victorian Senior Order of Merit event, any ties in the gross competition (not decided by play-off) or net competitions will see relevant points added and split by the number of competitors tying on the same score. Points for each competitor will then be 'rounded up' to the nearest whole number.
- (v) Every eligible player completing a Victorian Senior Order of Merit event will be awarded a minimum of 10 points.
- (vi) Points **will not** be awarded for net performances at either the 2016 Royal Melbourne Senior Classic (January) or the 2016 National Senior Masters (April) towards the 2015 Paul Lulofs Trophy. This decision has been taken on the basis of the extremely large number of entries received for each event and the resultant ballot which sees a number of higher handicap players unable to gain a place in the starting field.

3.6 In the event of a tie for final finishing positions for either the Doug Bachli Trophy or the Paul Lulofs Trophy, a count-back based on the respective players finishing positions in the Victorian Senior Amateur Championship (stroke or net section as applicable) shall be applied. If this count-back procedure does not resolve the tie, the matter shall be referred to the GV Match Committee whose decision shall be final.

3.7 A progressive listing will be maintained within the Senior Section of the GV Website at www.golfvic.org.au

4 ENTRIES

4.1 Unless otherwise specified in specific event conditions, in the event of entries exceeding the number of available places in any designated event, a ballot will be undertaken with players on the highest GA Handicaps subject to elimination.

4.2 All participants in the Victorian Senior Order of Merit events are required to adhere to the Golf Australia Member Protection Policy including the Code of Conduct (as adopted by Golf Victoria).

5 GOLF BALLS

During Victorian Senior Order of Merit events, the ball that the player plays must be named on the current list of Conforming Golf Balls. Penalty: A player using a non-conforming ball will be disqualified for the event where the use of such a ball occurred. In addition the points for any event where such a ball was used will be voided.

6. MOTORISED TRANSPORT

Unless otherwise specified within a designated event's conditions, and in accordance with each respective host club policy, motorised carts may be used in all men's senior golf events.

7. COMMITTEE

The Victorian Senior Order of Merit shall be administered by the GV Match Committee. The Committee reserves the right to vary any condition of this competition.

In the event of bad weather, or for any other reason, the Committee may designate another day or days for the competition or, may transfer play to another course for any designated event.

Protests must be made to the GV Match Committee not later than 24 hours after the conclusion of the final designated event within the calendar year. The decision of the GV Match Committee will be final in all matters relating to the Victorian Senior Order of Merit.